

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 15 are pending in this application. Claims 1 – 15 are rejected in the present Office Action.

Claims 1 and 3 – 15 were rejected as anticipated under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) by U.S. Patent No. 5,545,684, filed by Jakob, or in the alternative as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) in view of Jakob. Jakob discloses aqueous emulsion adhesives comprising homo- or copolymeric polyvinyl esters, polymeric protective colloids, water-soluble compounds and at least partially masked polyaldehydes having at least 3 carbon atoms. Claim 1 of the present application has been amended to include an aromatic monomer comprising 2-phenoxy ethyl acrylate. Such an aromatic monomer is not disclosed in Jakob. As anticipation under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) requires identity of invention, in view of the difference between Jakob and the claim it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3 – 15 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over Jakob. Further, there is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion in Jakob that would lead one skilled in the art to the use of the aromatic monomer of amended claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3 -15 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Jakob.

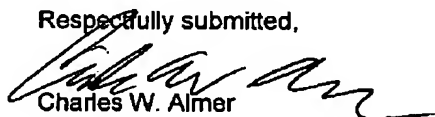
Claims 1 and 3 – 15 were rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Jakob in view of US Patent Application No. 20040122151, published by Smith. The distinctions between Jakob and the present invention set forth above are equally applicable to the present rejection. Smith discloses compositions that contain cationic polyvinyl alcohol graft copolymer in an aqueous solution. There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion in Jakob in view of Smith that would lead one skilled in the art to the use of the aromatic monomer of amended claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3 -15 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Jakob in view of Smith.

Claims 1 and 3 -15 were rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Jakob. The distinctions between Jakob and the present invention set forth above are equally applicable to the present rejection. There is no disclosure, teaching or suggestion in Jakob that would lead one skilled in the art to the use of the aromatic monomer of amended claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 3 -15 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Jakob.

Claim 2 was rejected as unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Jakob in view of US Patent Application No. 20020007910, published by Bennett. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection based on Jakob in view of Bennett.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. If there are any issues that the Examiner wishes to discuss, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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